NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE HOME SECRETARY 2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20418 NAS 247 (202) 389-6134



June 19, 1981

Dr. Joshua Lederberg President Rockefeller University 1230 York Avenue New York, NY 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am writing to ask you to serve as a member of the selection \cup committee for the J. Murray Luck Award which is to be presented in biological sciences at next year's Annual Meeting.

As you know, I have sent out a letter to all Academy members indicating the awards to be given in 1982 and asking for any suggestions or nominations they may wish to make. Hopefully, we will receive some that will be helpful to the committees. Should you be willing to serve on the Luck Committee, I will see that you get any useful material on previous committee's deliberations which may be available.

I have set a deadline of September 15 for the receipt of nominations from the members. The support material provided for the committees will be distributed on or before October 1. I am asking that the committees' recommendations be ready by the end of October; it would be helpful if you could have at least the preliminary material in by mid-October. This will provide adequate time for us to check back with the committee to make sure that we have clear documentation in terms of the citation which is desirable, a statement of the candidate's work of appropriate length and a selected bibliography. Your selection will need to go to the Council for approval; this plus the necessary time to get in touch with the recipient and make the necessary arrangements does require that we have everything well in hand by the end of October in time for distribution to the Council by November 15. You may want to call on Vicki Crawford, NAS 247, and probably telephone her at (202)389-6134 for assistance which she can give you. And, don't hesitate to call on me (612/373-9947) if I can be of any help.

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Dr. Lederberg Page 2

Naturally, each Award Committee is free to use whatever means seem appropriate to search for good candidates in the field of the award. As far as procedures are concerned, most committees have found it simplest and most useful to engage in a conference call for discussion, followed by correspondence, with perhaps a final conference call to reach a definite conclusion. Other committees follow the pattern of using first a request for names - which is promptly pared - and then a ballot which is followed by a telephone call.

The terms of your appointment to the selection committee are to serve until the next committee is appointed.

One of the principal functions of the Academy, as you know, is to recognize outstanding contributions to science. One way we do this is by electing members; but our Award program fulfills an additional and important part of this Academy function. Speaking personally, as well as on behalf of the Academy, I should be grateful if you would be willing to take part in this activity.

Sincerely yours,

Bryce Crawford, Jr. Home Secretary

Enclosure